

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment and following remarks, reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

By this amendment, the specification has been amended to insert “Cross-Reference to Related Applications” which contains information consistent with the filing receipt. Moreover, as required by the Examiner in paragraph 1 on page 2 of the Office action, a new Title has been provided that is clearly indicative of the embodiments to which the claims are directed.

Further by this amendment, claims 1-16 have been cancelled without prejudice in favor of newly added claims 17-24. It is submitted no new matter has been added and support for new claims 17-24 can be found, for example, at least by Figures 11-26 and the corresponding description of such figures contained in the specification.

The Applicants appreciate the courtesy extended by Primary Examiner David E. Harvey for conducting a personal interview with the Applicants’ representative on October 30, 2009 at the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Included next is a Statement of the Substance of the Interview.

Claims 1-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tozaki et al. (USPN: 6,085,021) for the reasons contained in paragraphs 5-18 on pages 3-6 of the Office action.

Without intending to acquiesce to the aforementioned rejection and in order to expedite allowance of this application, claims 17-24 as proposed during the personal interview are newly added herein. As noted in the Interview Summary (form PTOL-413), agreement was reached

with the Examiner that the features recited in new claims 17-24 are not disclosed or suggested by the Tozaki et al. reference.

Particularly, the Tozaki et al. reference fails to disclose or suggest playback information including at least one piece of playback section information and playlist mark information, the playlist mark information including an identifier of at least one playback section, time information and attribute information, the time information indicating, as a cue-up position, a time point between the in-time and the out-time of each playback section, and such reference also fails to disclose or suggest the button command being a link command for instructing the playback device to change a playback start position, the link command being in an indirect reference format and indicating a playback start position by indicating a piece of playlist mark information, as recited in each of new added independent claims 17, 19 and 22-24 of the present application.

Instead, the Tozaki et al. reference discloses a cell reproduction information table 201 provided with a first reproduction prohibit flag 202 which indicates whether or not each cell is possible to be reproduced at the time of performing a special operation such as a search or a scan [see Fig. 4 and Column 16 (lines 38-42)]. Moreover, the cell reproduction information table 201 contains further information including cell start address information 204 (i.e., start address of first VOB in each cell) and cell end address information 205 (i.e., start address of last VOB in each cell) [see Fig. 4 and Column 16 (lines 43-47)].

Accordingly, it is submitted that the features recited in each of newly added independent claims 17, 19 and 22-24, as well as newly added claims 18 and 20-21 dependent therefrom, are not disclosed or suggested by the Tozaki et al. reference.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is clearly allowable and the Examiner is kindly requested to promptly pass this case to issuance.

In the event, however, that the Examiner has any comments or suggestion of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the Applicant's representatives to expedite allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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